For the connectivity of Broad Guage Rail Linkages to important non-Major Ports in Gujarat, the Gujarat Maritime Board had initiated and completed Techno-Feasibility Studies through M/s Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES) Limited. Discussions were held between senior officers of Government of Gujarat and Railway Board on 20th July, 2006. Meanwhile, Railways are executing following projects for providing linkage to non-Major Ports in Gujarat:

Name of the Port	Status
Dahej Port (Bharuch-Samni-Dahej-Gauge Conversion)	The project has been sanctioned for execution by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) *viz.* Bharuch-Dahej Railway Company Limited which will implement the project. The shareholder's agreement has been signed on 12.1.2007. The anticipated cost of the project is Rs. 165.77 crores. The Final Location Survey (FLS) has been completed and the report submitted to Divisional Railway Manager, Baroda on 29.6.2007.
Hazira Port (Surat-Hazira-New Line)	A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for implementation of this project is to be created upon finalization of principles for revenue allocation and Concession Agreement for this project FLS has been completed.
Dholera Port	Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) is undertaking the Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Surey (PETS) for rail connectivity to this Port.
Bedi and New Bedi Port Connectivity	Railway Board is appraising the Study Report prepared by RITES for this project.

Pedestrian over-bridges on NH-5

1949. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pedestrian over-bridges on entire NH-5 presently;

(b) the additional number of pedestrian over-bridges planned in the year 2007-08 on NH-5;

(c) the break-up of such pedestrian over bridges, State-wise;

(d) the reasons for ignoring vulnerable spots and accident-prone places-pointed-out by Road Safety Forum; and

(e) the steps proposed to create a transparent and responsive NHAI in 2007- 08?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The number of pedestrian over-bridges on entire NH-5 is four.

(b) Nil.

(c) The State-wise break-up is as following:–

Sl. No.	State	Number of Pedestrian over bridges
1.	Gujarat (on NH-8)	02
2.	Karnataka (on NH-4)	06
3.	Andhra Pradesh (on NH-5)	04
4.	Bihar (on NH-2)	01

(d) and (e) The vulnerable spots and accident prone places are not ignored. The requirements at such places are properly examined and accordingly action is taken.

Widening of highways in hilly areas

†1950. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is considering to widen highways to check road accidents in hilly areas and to construct parapets there;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the highways situated in Uttarakhand State which have been included in this category; and

(c) if not, by when the work is likely to be started in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs) in the country. The widening of NHs in the hilly areas, including construction of parapet wall etc., are taken up based on condition of roads, traffic density, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds, which also enhances the road safety. The details of sections of NHs in the State of Uttarakhand where widening works have been included are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of sections of National Highways in the State of Uttarakhand where widening works have been included

NH No.	Section	Stretch	Status
1	2	3	4
NH-87	Jyolikot–Karna Prayag	km. 36 to km. 46	Included in Annual-Plan 2007-08.
NH-87	Jyolikot–Karna Prayag	km. 89 to km. 100	Included in Annual Plan 2007-08.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.